



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

### Call to Order

The meeting of the First Things First – Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on **January 12, 2011** at 9:00 a.m. at the Hualapai Cultural Center, 878 Highway 66, Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

Chair Irwin called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. Regional Council Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

### Members present:

Sandra Irwin-Chair, Rev. Pete Imus-Vice Chair, Candida Hunter, Helen J. Watahomigie, Charlene Imus, Scott Dunsmore

Members Excused: Lucille Watahomigie, Cheryl Beecher, Shelly Bachison

Members Absent: Penny Renfro

### Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on the Agenda

No Regional Council Members expressed a conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda.

### Presentation by First Things First La Paz/Mohave Grantee: Mohave County Superior Court - Infant & Toddler Mental Health Team

Tonya Ford, Infant Toddler Mental Health Team Coordinator, introduced herself to the Regional Council stating she is the director of the La Paz/Mohave Court Teams grant for infant and toddler mental health through the court. Ms. Ford provided a brief summary of how the Court Teams were developed stating that in 2009, there were 700,000 children in the United States who were removed from their biological parents and placed in foster care. Of those children who have suffered from trauma, 80 percent have developmental disabilities, and 25 percent have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. In 2006, Judge Weiss put a team together that could work with local civic organizations to help parents, foster parents, and children. When First Things First funding became available the Team was able to expand. In the past year, 304 children had been removed from homes in Mohave County. The majority of those were birth to five years old. The Team recognized that the entire community needed to get involved and now offers professional development to anyone who works with children birth through five. The Team is directed by Judge Weiss. The Court Team has provided 34 trainings over the course of a year with over 800 individuals in attendance. The Court Teams goal for 2011 is to put into practice the strategies they have learned over the past year. Member Hunter asked Ms. Ford if children from the Hualapai region were included in the 304 children removed from homes in Mohave County that was previously mentioned. Ms. Ford advised Hualapai is under a different jurisdiction therefore, they were not included. Ms. Ford advised the Regional Council that a list of available trainings can be obtained on their website, [www.mohavecourts.com](http://www.mohavecourts.com). FTF staff will forward that link to Regional Council Members. The next training for foster parents is scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at Kingman High School. Chair Irwin asked Ms. Ford to advise the Council on mental health issues for babies. Ms. Ford stated bonding and attachment issues are extremely important in the first year. Attachment is how the child responds to the primary caregiver. Bonding is how the caregiver responds to the child. If a child has no attachment or bonding by the age of 3, the child will isolate themselves or become extremely aggressive. The State recognizes the importance of immediate intervention for these children. Member Hunter asked if there are respite homes in the Kingman area. Ms. Ford advised there are very few. Ms. Ford advised if more help was available to assist foster families, then

perhaps there would be more of them. Ms. Ford invited anyone in the Hualapai region to attend La Paz/Mohave training courses in Kingman.

#### **Approval of December 16, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Member Hunter moved to approve the December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting minutes. Vice Chair Imus seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by Members present.

#### **Call to the Public**

There were no responses for the Call to the Public.

#### **Regional Partnership Council Member Updates and Announcements**

No announcements were made.

#### **Discussion and Possible Amendment to Maternal Child Health Agreement**

Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council an amendment to the current Maternal Child Health grant agreement was not possible due to infant formula distribution not being included in the original scope of work. A separate contract had to be drafted, which was provided to the Regional Council for review. Coordinator Pascual summarized the contract stating the funding amount for infant formula is \$2,499 and would be distributed through the Health Department and Maternal Child Health staff. Distribution of the formula would be done in collaboration with WIC and will promote and encourage breastfeeding, as well as provide nutrition information for infants.

*A momentary break was taken from approximately 9:45 to 9:50 a.m. due to lack of quorum.*

Member Hunter made a motion to approve grant agreement number GRA-RC025-11-0263-01 between Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council-Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board and the Hualapai Indian Tribe. Motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Imus. Motion passed unanimously by Members present.

#### **First Things First Grantee Update: Maternal Child Health Program- Jennifer Pope, RN**

Ms. Pope was unable to attend due to illness.

#### **Coordinator's Update**

- a. Coordinator Report: Coordinator Pascual reviewed grantee quarterly reports and summarized the information for the Regional Council. Coordinator Pascual advised she will include a success story with each quarterly report so the Regional Council can see effectiveness of the grants. Member Hunter questioned the possibility of developing a "food bank" where people can buy food at a reduced rate and use those funds to buy more food. Regional Manager Arnold advised it would be difficult due to the level of funding available to the Regional Council and suggested working in conjunction with other Tribal departments and the Kingman food bank to develop a pantry type system for local availability. Member Dunsmore questioned if there is an amount that has been encumbered in the quarterly report due to being half way through the fiscal year and only 25% of the amount awarded to Maternal Child Health has been expended. Coordinator Pascual advised the two grants are on different funding systems and explained how *deliverable basis* works for Maternal Child Health. St. Mary's Food bank is on a regular reimbursement basis. Coordinator Pascual advised this information will be included in the next report so it provides a better overall representation. Regional Manager Arnold stated FTF's financial systems are maturing and providing more up to date information therefore reducing delay time in reporting. Coordinator Pascual notified the Regional Council the Fiscal Year 2012 funding plan will be presented by Chair Irwin to the State Board on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- b. Outcome of Funding Plan presentation to Hualapai Tribal Council: The Fiscal Year 2012 Funding Plan was presented to Hualapai Tribal Council on January 8<sup>th</sup> and it was approved. Tribal Council was pleased with the addition of the new native language strategy.

- c. Regional Partnership Council Membership: Coordinator Pascual presented Member Hunter with a certificate of appreciation for one year of service, dedication, and commitment to the Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council and children and families of the Hualapai Tribe region.

**Next Meeting** -- 9:00 a.m. on February 9, 2011

Per the Regional Councils request, FTF staff will look into scheduling next month's meeting at the Cultural Center.

**Adjourn**

Member Hunter made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Dunsmore. Motion passed unanimously by Members present.

Chair Irwin adjourned the meeting at 10:01a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



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S. Jo Griffis, Administrative Assistant II

Approved by:



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Sandra Irwin, Chair